



Office of Mayor Jerry Sanders

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mayor Visits White House to Build Relationships for San Diego

Sanders meets with President and Vice President on Immigration Reform; Promotes Region's Homeland Security Agenda

Washington D.C. - Intent on building relationships that will benefit the San Diego region, Mayor Jerry Sanders spent the morning at the White House today, meeting with the President, Vice President, and Homeland Security Council officials, to discuss immigration reform and the region's Homeland Security Grant proposal.

The Mayor, and 14 other national leaders, met with the President and Vice President in order to discuss various proposals that the U.S. Senate is presently considering, to reform the country's immigration laws. "I told the President that San Diegans embrace our immigrant community. They are a vital part of our social and economic fabric. This is a dialogue that must be conducted with respect for all points of view," said Mayor Sanders.

The Mayor met with the President and Vice President for an hour and 20 minutes, beginning at 9:30am (eastern) this morning, in the White House's West Wing. Preceding that meeting, the Mayor met with representatives of the White House's Homeland Security Council in order to promote the region's Homeland Security agenda. "Today was about putting a name with a face, and a face with a city," said Mayor Sanders. "One of the promises I made while running for Mayor was that I would represent our City's agenda at the highest levels of government. My meetings today were intended to build the relationships that will be necessary to advance that agenda."

No commitments were made at today's meeting with the Homeland Security Council. The Mayor called it a "get acquainted meeting," setting the groundwork for his return next week to Washington D.C.

The Mayor will be traveling both to New York and Washington D.C. next week. In New York he will meet with members of the financial markets and financial press. In Washington D.C. the Mayor will be conducting meetings at the White House, the Capitol, the Pentagon and the Department of Homeland Security.

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